

REMARKS

Favorable consideration and allowance of the claims of the present application are respectfully requested.

In the present Official Action, method Claims 1-22, which were previously elected, without traverse, have been subjected to a two way species restriction as follows:

- I. Species 1 wherein the second exposing step is directed to second exposing to a Si source, and
- II. Species II wherein the second exposing step is directed to an ion/radical flux between the exposing steps.

As indicated, and in order to be fully responsive to the species restriction imposed in the present Official Action, applicants provisionally elect, without traverse, to prosecute Species 1, and reserve the right to have the non-elected species rejoined upon allowance of Species 1.

Applicants submit that Claims 1-11 read on Species 1. Applicants further observe that Claims 12-22 read on Species 2.

Wherefore, consideration and allowance of the claims of the present application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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